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7 November 1985

The Honorable William Proxmire
Vice Chairman
Subcommittee on Economic Resources,
Competitiveness, and Security Economics
Joint Economic Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Vice Chairman:

We received your letters inviting us to participate in the Joint Economic Committee's annual assessment of the Soviet and Chinese economies. In the letters you requested briefings from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) on the same day. Both agencies have agreed to a joint CIA/DIA briefing in closed, executive session.

All of the subjects listed in your letters will be discussed in this joint presentation, and representatives from both agencies will be present to answer questions.

Regarding the date for the briefing, we understand that you have agreed to delay the session until late March 1986. This would provide time for us to digest information on Moscow's economic plan for 1986-90. The Soviets will be unveiling that information at the 27th Communist Party Congress in February 1986. In addition, the delay would enable us to have available information from a number of research projects currently underway. This information could have a substantial impact on our estimates of Soviet military expenditures and gross national product.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant General, USAF

Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

Sincerely,

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence